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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An architecture for an automation system is disclosed that includes look-up services, a soft-state store, and a publication/subscription eventing component. The look-up services maintain a database of a number of devices to be controlled and monitored, and a database of a number of device objects corresponding to the devices. The services can be divided into attribute-based and name-based services. The soft-state store manages variables regarding the devices and the device objects, including heartbeats. The eventing component enables subscriptions to events related to changes in the variables. The architecture can include management daemons, such as a monitoring daemon that detects problems with power line devices.

I hereby certify that this is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to addressee" service under 37 CFR § 1.10 in an envelope addressed to The Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on Aug 17, 2000, by Michael Dryja, and having "express mail" mailing label no. EK994740878US.



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